**Vision 20/20 UPDATE**

**Academic Programs, Research Growth, Faculty Excellence and Rewards and Public Service**

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**Overall Status**: 
- Red: Not Met
- Yellow: Partially Met
- Green: Met

**Goal: J**  
Promote and expand the research mission of the University by increasing and supporting scholarly activities of faculty and students, and developing strategic partnerships with other institutions of higher education, government, and industry.

**Strategy**: A  
Increase external research and development funding by 10% annually starting in 2014, thus placing external funding at approximately $23,000,000 annually by 2020.

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**Recent Key Accomplishments**

Instead of continuing a contract with an external consultant to assist with increasing opportunities for diversifying and intensifying research efforts via external support; the University has taken steps in revamping its Office of Sponsored Programs, including inclusion of 2 new additional staff members and software technologies to improve the grants process. A steering committee for the OSP has also recommended relocation of this office to a more accessible and centralized post.

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**Emerging Issues**

Internal: New strategies focus on strengthening of existing research programs, combined with inclusion of new academic areas; including the establishment of 2 centers of excellence. External: Federal funding opportunities, for external support, are slightly improving amidst State budget cuts. A new upcoming Federal administration may impact the current federal funding landscape.

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**Upcoming Events**

- **Activity 1a**: Ongoing assessment of current research funding sources and portfolio composition to identify opportunities for diversifying and intensifying research efforts.
- **Activity 1b**: Continue efforts to increase faculty participation in research and creative works by providing additional resources and incentives.
- **Activity 1c**: Sponsored programs will continue implementing training and other support for faculty in all four academic colleges as a way to increase participation and external funding.

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**Solutions**

- Work with faculty and administrators in providing strategies to increase external research funding to meet the needs of existing and new research areas.
- Fully implement the use of new software and related new technology resources to increase faculty and staff participation in external funding opportunities which focus on the identified institution’s areas of strength.

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**Upcoming Deliverable/Milestones**

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hiring of external consultant</td>
<td>11/01/2014</td>
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<td>Assessment of WVSU’s research portfolio</td>
<td>02/02/2015</td>
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<td>Identify opportunities &amp; strategies for research portfolio</td>
<td>03/31/2015</td>
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